840. h. 5. 19

THE Fox Unkennell'd:

OR, THE

Sham MEMORIAL.

By the Author of the Seven Extinguishers.

A *Fox* of Quality that long
Had Put upon both Old and Young,
And in the *Lion*'s Court had been
Time out of Mind a Favourite ſeen,
As undiſcover'd he purſu'd
The *Private* for the *Publick* Good,
Was held ſuſpected in his Wiles,
Wholly t'Engroſs his Sovereign's Smiles;
And this and that *Beaſt* often ſtrove
To Worm him from his Monarch's Love,
But their Attempts could nothing do,
So much the more Eſteem'd he grew:

By how much more they made Effort
To Ruin his Deſigns at Court,
For he was Maſter of ſuch Arts
As to deceive unguarded Hearts,
And manag'd Things with ſuch a Grace
On all Occaſions in his Place,
That almoſt every one, but thoſe
Who could not with his Meaſures cloſe
In gulling of the Beſtial Nation
By Way of ſeeming *Moderation*,
Could not but think he made appear
He well deſerv'd his Maſter's Ear,
In being *Miniſter Primier*.
In ſhort, Gulpout kept his Poſt,
To his Accuſers Grief and Coſt,
Who ſtead of bringing it about,
To have this Patchmillian out,
To their own Diſappointment found,
Their Expectations run a Ground.
By the Brave Panther's Means who bore
The Reins of Military Power,
And was engag'd, as near Ally'd,
To take this Envy'd Stateman's Side,
While they who his *Diſmiſſion* fought,
In their own Toils themſelves were caught,
And out of Offices were turn'd,
By him they'd out of Place have ſpurn'd.
This Accidental Change enſur'd
The Poſt his Cunning had procur'd;
And thenceforth all around the Throne
Were none but Creatures of his own,
Such as the ſame Opinions held,
And ravag'd o'er the Woods and Fields,

Without

Without being queſtion'd for their Crimes
In thoſe Remiſs, Licencious Times,
Where 'twas allow'd and underſtood,
Beaſts ſhould be *moderately* good.
Should all Things do on all Occaſions,
To ſhew their ſeveral *Moderations*,
Whether the *State* or Kingdom's *Weal*,
Call'd for their utmoſt Care and Zeal,
Or *Piety* that lay a bleeding,
Urg'd a more vigorous Proceeding;
Still they were found at every Trial,
Moderately *Juſt*, and *Loyal*;
But when the Leaders of their Party
Would have 'em be more *Warm* and *Hearty*,
To mount up to Preferment's Pitch,
And be *immoderately* Rich.

Year after Year they kept in Play
The Chiefeſt Poſts at Court their Prey,
As uncontroul'd in Luſt of Power,
And Sanctimoniouſly Soure,
Againſt all ſuch as durſt diſpute
The *Juſtice* of their *Leading* Brute.
They voted it a high Offence
For any one to ſpeak good Senſe,
Or bring in Queſtion what was done,
By theſe the Guardians of the Throne,
While every *Monkey* and *Baboon*
Squeall'd out their Praiſes out of Tune,
And hir'd on Purpoſe, to ſet forth
Their Virtues and pretended Worth,
Was ſuffer'd Nobles to abuſe,
And Beaſts of Spotleſs Truth accuſe,
That would not in their Counſels join,
And the *Succeſſion* undermine,

Which by a previous Resolve
Was on a **Leopard** to devolve,
On whom the Scepter was entail'd,
In Case the *Lion*'s Issue fail'd.
But as the Wisest sometimes Err,
And Schemes that hurt themselves prefer,
While they take Measures, and devise
Ways to defeat their Enemies;
So 'twas the *Fox* his Luckless Fortune,
While he contriv'd behind the Curtain,
And underhand was Means a brewing,
To bring about his En'mies Ruin,
So to project and cast Affairs,
As brought about *His* Fall, not Theirs.
It happen'd while the *Beasts* were met,
Yearly about Affairs of State,
A **Bull** that thought the Throne aggriev'd
By Principles of late receiv'd,
And publickly profess'd and taught,
Reasons against those Doctrines brought,
By which he vigorously maintain'd
The **Lion**'s Right that o'er them Reign'd;
And made it evidently clear
He was not an *Elective Heir*,
But by *Descent* and *Birth* laid Claim
To *Kingly Government* and Fame,
As no Pretence for Disobedience
Could draw his Subjects from Allegiance,
In whom 'twas a Supream Offence
To *question* or *coerce* their Prince.
This Declaration at a Time,
When such Assertions seem'd a Crime,
Rouz'd up an *Otter*, in whose Nature
It was to live on Land and Water,

And was the ſoft his Penſioner
To make a Noiſe and mighty Stir,
That the Delinquent might be brought
To anſwer for his Heinous Fault.
'Twas done, for he that bears the P——ſe
Muſt have great Intereſt of Courſe;
And after various *Pro* and *Con*
To bring the Tickliſh Matter on,
The Loyal *Bull* was try'd and caſt,
And had upon him Sentence paſs'd,
Spight of his *Friends* that took his Part,
With all the *Rhetorick* and *Art*
That could be ſhewn on any Side,
Where *Reaſon* was to be their Guide;
Or where the *Royal Preſence* might
Have aw'd his Subjects with its Sight,
From daring openly to eſpouſe
The *Breach* of Sacred *Oaths* and *Vows*,
Which they had to their Monarch given
When he *receiv'd* his *Crown* from *Heaven*.

At which the Woods with one Accord,
And Fields, implor'd their Sovereign Lord,
To reaſſume his Ancient Rights,
Impatient of his Subjects Slights,
And baniſh from his Preſence thoſe
Durſt his Prerogatives oppoſe;
Or would his *Royal Title* Cripple
By the Advancement of the People,
To whom they would His Power tranſer,
And Rights of making *Peace* and *War*.

When ſly *Vulpone* took Alarm
At Sight of this Approaching Harm,
That muſt *Unkennel* him of Courſe,
Should theſe have the prevailing Force.

But how to find out Means and Ways
His ſinking *State* and *Hopes* to raiſe,
Not one amongſt his Creatures cou'd
Give Counſel fit to be purſu'd.
At laſt Lord **Reynard** wagg'd his Tail,
As if he had found what could not fail
To rivet him within his Place,
And make him ſure to keep his M———y,
Which was to counterfeit a Sort
Of Sham M———l ſent to Court
From an adjacent Forreſt that
Had been his King's Confederate,
And many Years had firmly ſtood
By 's Intereſt, for the Common Good;
As both conjoin'd, ſtrove hard and faſt
To lay their Foes Encloſures waſte.
In this the **Lion** was adviſ'd
To be of other Means appriz'd,
Than at that Juncture to agree
To change his preſent M———y,
Since it in all Appearance might
Their ſtrict Alliance *diſunite,*
And make a Twenty Years Agreement
To loſe its Energy *and* Cement:
Beſides, it would at Home create
Inteſtine Troubles in his State.
And **Boars**, *and* **Wolves**, *and* **Beaſts** *of Force,*
That had ſupply'd him with their Purſe,
Would all turn Retrogade of Courſe,
Would ceaſe thenceforward to ſupply
His Majeſty's Neceſſity,
When Exigencies of the War
Should urge Remittances from far.

How!

How! Said a Hetfier that was nigh,
And saw the *Fraud* with half an Eye,
Is this the Style *of an* Ally?
No, no, my Leige, *survey it round,*
Their Deference is too profound,
Both for your Person *and your Sense,*
To offer at such Insolence,
As all good Manners *to forsake,*
And point out Methods you're to take
In your *Direction of Affairs,*
That does not interfere with Theirs;
Down to its End *from its* Beginning,
'Tis every Word the Fox's Penning.

At which the Monarch having weigh'd
What could in his Defence be said,
And paus'd upon the Allegations
Of his Accusers in their Stations,
Wisely pronounc'd the *Offender's* Doom,
And bid him *go and* rule at Home.
Since he *would from that Moment be*
From such Unfaithful Servants free
That would corrupt his Family:
Nor could he think his Person *Safe*
While in his Hands he kept the Staff.
Not but his past Attendance *shou'd*
At this Conjuncture do him good,
And shew a Master's *Gratitude,*
Since 'twas an Act of Royal Grace,
Tamely *to let him* quit *his Place,*
Without more Fatal Consequences
Of such Unparallell'd Offences,
And Instances of Mercy *give,*
By suffering so much Guilt *to* Live.

The

The Voice was out, and mix'd with Air,
Shew'd how he could Transgressors spare,
That call'd for Punishments Severe.
And lo! The Beasts before dismiss'd
Their former Offices possess'd,
And saw themselves once more restor'd
To Sit again at C———l Board,
To give Advice, and Measures take,
Which their Opposers Schemes should break.
When Universal Mirth appear'd,
And *Victory* its Aspect rear'd,
Trod on the Heels of the Report
Of Alterations at the Court,
As unexpected and as strange,
As was that Blessing of a Change,
Which brought glad Moments smiling on,
And eccho'd Joy from Sun to Sun;
The *Prince* and *People* both confess'd,
To be *Reciprocally* Bless'd;
The *First* secur'd of *their* Esteem,
The *Last* of Liberty in Him.

FINIS.